

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Siddhesh Pandit on Monday December 13, 2010.

Specification

Replacing title with the following:

**AN ETHERNET FRAME AND SYNCHRONOUS OPTICAL NETWORK (SONET)
FRAME CONVERTIBLE INTERFACE DEVICE AND FRAME TRANSMISSION
METHOD**

Allowable Subject Matter

2. **Claims 1, 2, and 4** are allowed.

Regarding **claim 1**, the best prior art found during the examination of the present, **Patenaude (U.S. Patent Application Publication # 2004/0076168 A1)** in view of **Zelig et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication # 2002/0110087 A1)**, and further in view of **Yu (U.S. Patent Application Publication # 2001/0043603 A1)**, fail to disclose "... a plurality of multiplexing parts, each of which is established corresponding to STS path identifier respectively and each of which is operable to multiplex an Ethernet frame having said specific VLAN identifier corresponding to said specific STS path identifier

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that is held by said 1st holding part among a plurality of input Ethernet frame VLAN identifiers;"

Claim 2 is also allowed by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

Regarding **claim 4**, the best prior art found during the examination of the present, **Yu (U.S. Patent Application Publication # 2001/0043603 A1)**, in view of **Kong et al. (US Patent # 2002/0176450 A1)**, and further in view of **Patenaude (U.S. Patent Application Publication # 2004/0076168 A1)**, fail to disclose "... a plurality of multiplexing parts, each of which is established corresponding to STS path identifier respectively and each of which is operable to multiplex a plurality of Ethernet frames having a specific VLAN identifier corresponding to the specific STS path identifier that is held in the 1st holding part among an input plurality of Ethernet frame VLAN identifiers, along with a 2nd SONET multiplex isolation device among the plurality of SONET multiplex isolation devices with a 2nd holding part with the SONET frame specific STS path identifier and Ethernet frame specific VLAN identifier placed opposite each other;"

Conclusion

3. Any response to this Office Action should be **faxed to (571) 273-8300 or mailed to:**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to

Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Any inquiry concerning this communication or early communications from the Examiner should be directed to Salvador E. Rivas whose telephone number is (571) 270-1784. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Chirag G. Shah can be reached on (571) 272- 3144. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/customer service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Salvador E. Rivas
S.E.R./ser

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December 6, 2010

/Chirag G Shah/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2477